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**STATEMENT BY  
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1564th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

14 May 2026

**On the ongoing attempts by some OSCE participating States to undermine efforts at finding a long-term and sustainable peaceful solution to the Ukrainian crisis**

Mr. Chairperson,

The mood among the representatives of the Kyiv regime's sponsors present here is shifting at an astonishing speed. Only recently, we heard them calling for the European Union to be included in any peace talks on Ukraine, and then expressing concerns that Ukraine was coming to these negotiations from a position of weakness. A few weeks ago, we were assured that Ukraine could continue to fight for a long time. Now, however, the prevailing view is that everything is falling apart in Russia and that the people are on the verge of taking to the streets, while Ukraine, it turns out, is currently capable of winning on the battlefield.

Colleagues, we are not psychiatrists, and we find it difficult to give those who make such claims an accurate diagnosis. However, this is undoubtedly a case of collective psychosis, intermingled with a dysfunctional perception of reality. If it carries on like this, we will again start being told that Russia has only enough missiles left for a dozen salvos, and that we are dismantling microwave ovens and washing machines to get at their precious microchips. We cannot draw you out of this dangerous state of self-hypnosis, but we will speak the truth – whether you want to hear it or would prefer to live in a Pollyanna world is up to you.

If, however, you are actually interested in reality, I should like to inform you that the spring campaign within the framework of the special military operation is in full swing, and that Russian troops have made significant advances in a number of directions that are sensitive for the Kyiv regime. In Donbass, our units are positioned 15 kilometres from the city of Slavyansk and are advancing on it from two sides; fighting is now taking place almost within the boundaries of Konstantinovka, a population centre that is of strategic importance for the belt of fortifications still in the hands of the Ukrainian armed forces.

At the same time, the Russian troops hold the strategic initiative and are advancing along virtually the entire front line, both in the south, where they are closing the circle around Orekhov, and in the north, where they are expanding the buffer zone in the Sumy and Kharkov regions. The pace of the offensive will now only increase, as the window of opportunity we offered for diplomacy has not only failed to be used,

but has even been perceived in Europe as a sign of weakness and an inability to gain further ground. It can generally be said that any display of humanity and restraint on our part, any desire to preserve the lives of as many Ukrainians as possible – whom the Zelenskyy regime is rounding up on the streets and packing off to be slaughtered – is typically interpreted by our opponents as a vulnerability and a sign of allegedly mounting problems on our side. And Ukraine's problems immediately vanish into thin air as if by magic.

Meanwhile, posts on Ukrainian social media about the forced mobilization and resistance to it on the part of ordinary citizens are increasingly beginning to resemble dispatches from a combat zone. At the same time, of course, not everyone is being conscripted – nobody is touching the children of the elite, and most of them are already abroad in any case. It is only those who cannot buy their way out and have no connections with the utterly corrupt Ukrainian leadership who are trapped in the nets of the “people-catchers”.

Mobilization is increasingly becoming a tool for intimidation and punishment as well, used against those deemed undesirable. The canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church – which, despite all of Zelenskyy's efforts and the attempts to replace it with a political church, continues to unite the majority of Ukrainian society and enjoys its support – is being targeted in particular. Essentially, the Kyiv regime has moved away from religious persecution in the traditional sense to a phase of terror, to the physical annihilation of members of the clergy and their families.

The sheer horror of what is happening is most vividly illustrated by recent events in the Chernivtsi region, where Metropolitan Longin of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's Banchen Monastery publicly accused officers from the territorial manning centres of brutally torturing his own son. A clergyman from Bukovina was also subjected to unspeakable torture. According to the Metropolitan, the priest in question was forced to dig a pit into which he was then thrown and kept there all night, with water being poured into the pit periodically. The priest has video evidence of this torture and abuse.

What happened last week was not an isolated outrage, but part of a deliberate policy by the State. Since the beginning of 2026, at least 21 priests and monks from the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church have been forcibly mobilized in Ukraine. What is more, these arrests are taking place directly on the premises of churches and monasteries, in a number of cases after the persons in question have been beaten up. Even those priests who refuse, even under torture, to admit to their guilt in fabricated criminal cases based on charges of treason are being sent to their certain deaths at the front. According to official figures alone, the number of criminal cases brought against priests of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Ukraine has already exceeded 170.

Has anyone among the representatives of the European countries present here touched upon this subject even once? The answer is obvious – the crimes committed by the Zelenskyy regime and its transformation into a full-blown dictatorship, as also corroborated on the basis of facts by Iuliia Mendel in the interview I mentioned today, are not something that the regime's Western sponsors intend to acknowledge. Furthermore, as we have already said, having decided to grant new loans to the authorities in Kyiv, they are now pushing these to ramp up mobilization and lower the age of conscription. Ukraine must continue to fight for a while yet and endeavour to inflict as much damage as possible on Russia, even at the expense of its own future – as a country it has long since been written off by the West.

That is why the European Union, the United Kingdom and Canada continue to ply the Kyiv regime with weapons instead of undertaking peace efforts aimed at resolving the Ukrainian crisis. The European Commission has officially confirmed that 5.9 billion euros from the first tranche of 9.1 billion euros will go directly towards the procurement of armaments. This is just part of the European Union's large-scale lending programme for 2026 and 2027, totalling 90 billion euros, of which 60 billion euros are earmarked specifically for the purchase of weapons. In April, the United Kingdom announced that it would transfer no

fewer than 120,000 drones, including long-range combat drones, to the Kyiv regime. Canada has allocated 2 billion dollars' worth of military aid for the 2026/27 fiscal year, plus an additional 270 million dollars for the procurement of weapons from NATO lists, bringing its total monetary support for Ukraine to 25.8 billion dollars.

France is not standing on the sidelines either. Since 2022, it has provided Ukraine with military aid worth 6 billion euros. On 7 May, the Élysée Palace announced that this support would increase.

Germany's activities deserve particular attention. It has effectively become the world leader in terms of the volume of military aid provided to Ukraine. According to the Ukrainian Minister of Defence, support from Germany accounts for one third of the total volume of aid provided to the Kyiv regime.

On 11 May, the Ukrainian and German Defence Ministers launched "Brave Germany", a joint programme to develop defence technologies, and agreed to jointly roll out long-range drones capable of striking targets at a distance of up to 1,500 kilometres. This is not merely assistance – it is direct involvement by Germany in military confrontation. Add to this the setting up of Ukrainian defence production facilities on the territory of EU countries, and the granting of airspace for Ukrainian drones to fly through. The conclusion from all this is obvious – Russia is not at war with Ukraine, but with the entire NATO bloc, for which that country is nothing more than a private military company.

At the same time, we are seeing an increase in the militarization of Europe and its accelerated preparations for war with Russia. Take, for example, the plans by France and Poland to conduct bilateral exercises over the Baltic Sea to simulate the use of tactical nuclear weapons against targets on the territory of Russia and Belarus. This is no longer covert preparation – it is a clear demonstration of offensive intentions. And right now, on the very border with Russia, NATO's largest military exercise of the year, "Spring Storm 2026", is taking place in south-eastern Estonia. Twelve thousand soldiers, the deployment of a brigade from the United Kingdom, combat aircraft and attack drones – all of this, of course, constitutes offensive scenarios.

Ladies and gentlemen, even in the midst of this reckless, militaristic and Russophobic frenzy that has engulfed almost the entire old continent, we would advise you not to forget that every new shipment of weapons to the Kyiv regime, every hostile act against us at sea, every strike on Russian territory with Western weapons brings us closer to the point of no return. Do not say later that we did not warn you about this.

Thank you for your attention.